

March 11, 2015

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy,

The National Network for Youth is grateful for your leadership on human trafficking which is a dark mark on our modern society. Slavery has no place in America and we stand proudly with you to prevent and end human trafficking in America.

The National Network for Youth, founded in 1974, champions the needs of runaway, homeless, and other disconnected youth through strengthening the capacity of community-based services, facilitating resource sharing, and educating the public and policy makers. NN4Y members work collaboratively to prevent youth homelessness and the inherent risks of homelessness, including exploitation, human trafficking, criminal justice involvement, and death.

Human trafficking is a bipartisan and nonpartisan issue. Together, we stand united against modern day slavery, including both sex and labor trafficking. Presently, we are at an important moment in the Senate with both parties unified to take a strong stand against human trafficking, from prevention to law enforcement, and service provision to survivors. We are so pleased that the Runaway and Homeless and Youth Trafficking Prevention has become a part of this important conversation and we thank you for your support of that legislation last Congress.

The National Network for Youth is writing this letter with the hope that the U.S. Senate will remove the partisan piece of the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act. This legislation is desperately needed and we cannot let this moment pass us by because of the addition of partisan and divisive provisions.

Respectfully, thank you for your work. Please work across the aisle to ensure that this critical trafficking legislation becomes the law of the land.

Best regards,



Darla Bardine, J.D.

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